

REMARKS

The Office Action dated September 9, 2003 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1-28 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. No new matter has been added, and these amendments are not submitted to distinguish the invention over prior art. Claims 1-28 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

The Official Action of September 9, 2003 was a restriction requirement, which required the applicants to elect to prosecute one of three inventions which were purported to be recited in the claims. The three inventions are:

Invention I, recited in claims 1-2, drawn to a computer system having a memory for storage of files and a main filesystem for accessing the file;

Invention II, recited in claims 3-16 and 25-28, drawn to prepare a custom filesystem for a computer system; and

Invention III, recited in claims 17-24 drawn to load system configuration file.

Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the subject matter of Invention II, recited in claims 3-16 and 25-28. However, as will be discussed below, applicants

respectfully submit that all of claims 1-28, as submitted herein, are directed to a single inventive concept. Applicants therefore request that all of presently pending claims 1-28 be examined.

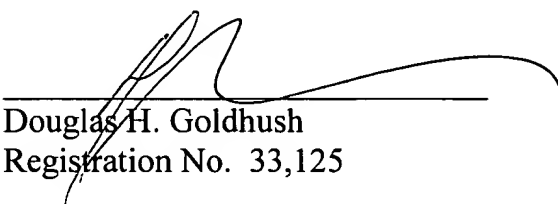
All of the presently pending claims have been amended to be more clearly directed to a system or a method having a plurality of limitations, including wherein a custom filesystem is positioned before a standard filesystem, and wherein the custom filesystem is based on attributes of the computer system. It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that all of claims 1-28 are directed to a single invention, and that no restriction is necessary.

In view of the above, applicants respectfully request that all of claims 1-28 be examined in this application. In the alternative, however, in compliance with United States patent practice, applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the subject matter of Invention II, recited in claims 3-16 and 25-28.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas H. Goldhush
Registration No. 33,125

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
14TH Floor
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

DHG:scc